

**From:** Virginia Board of Optometry  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 17, 2017 7:01 PM  
**Subject:** Prescribing of Controlled Substances Containing Opioids



Virginia Department of  
Health Professions



[Board of Optometry](#)

## Board of Optometry

### Prescribing of Controlled Substances Containing Opioids

#### Regulatory Action Effective on 10/30/2017

Requirements for the prescribing of controlled substances containing opioids by TPA-Certified Optometrists have been promulgated as emergency regulations which become effective on 10/30/2017. The regulations include requirements for the management of acute and chronic pain.

The promulgation of permanent regulations to replace the emergency regulations starts with a Notice of Intended Regulatory Action which will be open for public comment from 11/13/2017 through 12/13/2017. To review information on the regulatory action including the emergency regulations [CLICK HERE](#). To review only the emergency regulations on the Board of Optometry's website [CLICK HERE](#).

**NOTE:** The Drug Enforcement Administration, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Ultram® package insert indicate that **tramadol** is a controlled substance which contains an opioid. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

Questions may be directed to [optbd@dhp.virginia.gov](mailto:optbd@dhp.virginia.gov)

Website: [Board of Optometry](#)